

### Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-8 to read as follows. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently being amended, have been reproduced below.

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1. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording method for conveying a recording medium onto a platen disposed to face a recording head for executing recording by discharging recording liquid droplets, to perform recording, comprising the steps of:

providing a rib ~~row~~ rows each including a plurality of ribs in a direction intersecting a conveying direction of the recording medium, the ribs being disposed to be different from one another, and disposing at least two rib rows on the platen ~~along~~ separated in the conveying direction of the recording medium; and

completing predetermined one-line recording by performing recording except for recording data corresponding to a position of each rib at each of at least the two rib rows when a recording operation is performed on a leading end or a rear end of the recording medium in the conveying direction thereof.

2. (Currently amended) An inkjet recording apparatus for performing recording by conveying a recording medium onto a platen disposed to face a recording head for executing recording by discharging recording liquid droplets, comprising:

at least two rib rows disposed on the platen along a conveying direction of the recording medium, each rib row including a plurality of ribs in a direction intersecting

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the conveying direction of the recording medium, the ribs being disposed to be different from one another,

wherein predetermined one-line recording is completed by performing recording except for recording data corresponding to a position of each rib at each of said at least ~~the~~ two rib rows when a recording operation is performed on a leading end or a rear end of the recording medium in the conveying direction thereof.

3. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording method for conveying a recording medium between a recording head for executing recording by discharging recording liquid droplets and a platen disposed to face the recording head, to perform recording, comprising the steps of:

dividing a discharge nozzle row of the recording head into at least two portions of a first nozzle row on the downstream side of with respect to a conveying direction of the recording medium, and a second nozzle row on the upstream side of with respect to the conveying direction of the recording medium;

~~using, as the platen,~~ using a platen including at least two rib rows ~~disposed~~ separated in the recording medium conveying direction, each rib row having a plurality of ribs arrayed in a direction intersecting the recording medium conveying direction, the at least two ribs rows being divided near positions opposite a dividing line for dividing the first and second nozzle rows, and each rib of one rib row ~~with the dividing line set as a boundary~~ being disposed in a position between adjacent ribs of the other rib row;

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executing two stages at least once each when a recording operation is performed in on a leading end or a rear end of the recording medium in with respect to the conveying direction, the first stage being for positioning the leading end or the rear end of the recording medium ~~in the conveying direction~~ within a range of the second nozzle row, and recording a recording data first region equivalent to a part of recording data of one line by the recording head, using the range of the second nozzle row, in which the recording medium is present at this time or the ranges of the first and second nozzle rows, the second stage being for positioning the leading end or the rear end of the recording medium ~~in the conveying direction~~ within a range of the first nozzle row, and recording a recording data second region equivalent to a remaining part of the recording data of one line by the recording head, using the ranges of the first and second nozzle rows, in which the recording medium is present at this time, or the range of the first nozzle row; and

for the recording data first region, using recording data obtained by masking at least a position of each rib of the rib row on the upstream side of with respect to the recording medium conveying direction for the entire recording data of one line, and for the recording data second region, using recording data obtained by masking at least a position of each rib of the rib row on the downstream side of with respect to the recording medium conveying direction.

4. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus for performing recording by conveying a recording medium between a recording head for executing

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recording by discharging recording liquid droplets and a platen disposed to face the recording head, said apparatus comprising:

~~at least two or more rib rows disposed at least in a region of the platen opposite a discharge nozzle row of the recording head in a conveying direction of the recording medium, each rib row including a plurality of ribs a first rib row in a direction intersecting the a conveying direction of the recording medium, including a plurality of ribs on the platen; and~~

~~a second rib row in a direction intersecting the conveying direction of the recording medium, including a plurality of ribs on the platen, the ribs of said second rib row being arranged differently from the ribs of said first rib row, and disposed downstream of said first rib row with respect to the recording medium conveying direction,~~

~~wherein arrangements of ribs of adjacent rib rows among the two or more rib rows are different from each other a recording operation is performed on a leading end or a rear end of the recording medium, with respect to the conveying direction, by positioning the leading end or the rear end of the recording medium on said first rib row and performing recording except for recording data corresponding to a position of each rib of said first rib row, then positioning the leading end or the rear end of the recording medium in the conveying direction on said second rib row and performing recording except for recording data corresponding to a position of each rib of said second rib row.~~

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5. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein absorbing means is provided between ribs of ~~the rib row constituting the platen~~ at least one of said first and second rib rows to absorb recording liquid.

6. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 4, ~~wherein regarding the adjacent ribs rows of the platen, wherein~~ in a position positions equivalent to a rough ~~center~~ centers between adjacent ribs of ~~one~~ said first rib row, ~~each rib~~ ribs of ~~the other~~ said second rib row is are disposed.

7. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein one-line recording by ~~the~~ a discharge nozzle row of the recording head is completed by dividing recording data according a position of each rib, and performing at least two or more recording operations accompanied by recording medium conveying in the midway when ~~a~~ the recording operation is performed on the leading end or the rear end of the recording ~~medium in the conveying direction.~~ medium.

8. (Currently amended) An ink jet ~~recording~~ medium apparatus according to claim 7, wherein when at least the two or more recording operations are executed ~~being~~ accompanied by the recording medium conveying, a conveying amount of the recording medium in the midway is set equal to/lower than half of a length of the discharge nozzle row of the recording head in the recording medium conveying direction.

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9. (Non-elected) An ink jet recording apparatus of a serial type for performing recording by passing a recording material between a recording head and a platen disposed to face the recording head, and scanning, in a reciprocating manner, the recording head in a direction roughly orthogonal to a recording medium conveying direction, comprising:

dividing data of a main scanning direction of the recording head into a plurality of data blocks; and

executing recording on the recording medium by dividing the plurality of data blocks for a plurality of main scanning operations of the recording head,

wherein a sum total of lengths of the plurality of data blocks in the main scanning direction of the recording head is longer than a real recorded length of the recording medium in the main scanning direction of the recording head.

10. (Non-elected) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 9, wherein a recording pixel and a mask pattern indicating an array of non-recording pixels are set in superposed region of the data blocks, and in a recording head main scanning direction superposed region of at least adjacent data blocks, means for allocating different mask patterns, and means for thinning recording data of each data block according to each mask pattern are provided.

11. (Non-elected) An ink jet recording apparatus for performing recording by scanning a recording head to the same recording region by a plurality of

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times, and thinning recording data according to a mask pattern different for each scanning, comprising:

dividing data of a main scanning direction of the recording head into a plurality of data blocks;

executing recording on the recording medium by dividing the plurality of data blocks for a plurality of main scanning operations of the recording head;

means provided for allocating different mask patterns different between a superposed region of adjacent data blocks in the scanning direction of the recording head and a region except for the superposed region of the data blocks; and

means provided for thinning recording data for each region of each data block according to each mask pattern.

12. (Non-elected) An ink jet recording apparatus according to any one of claims 9 to 11, wherein the recording head include a thermal energy generator for discharging ink.

13. (Non-elected) An ink jet recording method for performing recording by passing a recording material between a recording head and a platen disposed to face the recording head, and scanning, in a reciprocating manner, the recording head in a direction roughly orthogonal to a recording medium conveying direction, comprising the steps of:

dividing data of a main scanning direction of the recording head into a plurality of data blocks; and

executing recording on the recording medium by dividing the plurality of data blocks for a plurality of main scanning operations of the recording head,

wherein a sum total of lengths of the plurality of data blocks in the main scanning direction of the recording head is longer than a real recorded length of the recording medium in the main scanning direction of the recording head.

14. (Non-elected) An ink jet recording method for performing recording by scanning a recording head to the same recording region by a plurality of times, and thinning recording data according to a mask pattern different for each scanning, comprising the steps of:

dividing data of a main scanning direction of the recording head into a plurality of data blocks;

executing recording on the recording medium by dividing the plurality of data blocks for a plurality of main scanning operations of the recording head;

allocating different mask patterns different between a superposed region of adjacent data blocks in the scanning direction of the recording head and a region except for the superposed region of the data blocks; and

thinning recording data for each region of each data block according to each mask pattern.